

# Report on the Association of Surgeons of Great Britain and Ireland International Bursary Award, 2008

## Dr Alema Onira Nelson

It was a great pleasure for me to be awarded a bursary to attend the International Congress of the Association of Surgeons of Great Britain and Ireland (ASGBI) in Bournemouth. This is an achievement in my life.

I had the opportunity to be hosted in the Royal Bournemouth General Hospital and Poole Hospital by Mr Basil Fozard and Mr Shorland Hosking respectively. I was extremely impressed with the holistic patient management, computerized patient record keeping and the general cleanliness in these two hospitals. My knowledge was broadened by the extremely fantastic technology of Laparoscopic surgery which I witnessed from these hospitals. Frankly speaking, this was my first time to see Laparoscopic cholecystectomy and Laparoscopic mesh Hernia repair.

The best way of transforming a trainee into a Surgeon is through surgical education, training and professional development. This was perfectly achieved by this conference.

All sessions I attended were innovative, well articulated and presented. Just to mention a few among others; a Bad Day On-Call, Hernia Management, Trauma, Peri-operative Organ Dysfunction and the Hot Topic, 'Is the sub-consultant grade inevitable?' The speech of the President of ASGBI, Professor Brian J Rowlands, can only be summarized by saying he is a true mentor to surgical trainees.

It was not only about Surgery. What about the dinner? It was fantastic, with very delicious meals, variety of wines, excellent reception and a very good, entertaining, live band.

My humble requests to ASBGI are;

1. To continue awarding bursaries to overseas trainees to attend the International Surgical Congress in order to broaden their surgical knowledge.
2. To provide training opportunities to overseas trainees.
3. To make the International Bursary winners ambassadors to surgical trainees in the developing world.

Lastly I take this opportunity to very much thank Members of the Surgical Fraternity of the Association of Surgeons of Great Britain and Ireland (ASGBI) in awarding me the International Bursary to attend their International Surgical Conference in Bournemouth. Long live ASBGI.